

THE SWISS EDUCATION SYSTEM WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON VOCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

OECD/ED workshop

26th July 2016

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Office of Science, Technology and
Higher Education

Embassy of Switzerland in the United
States of America

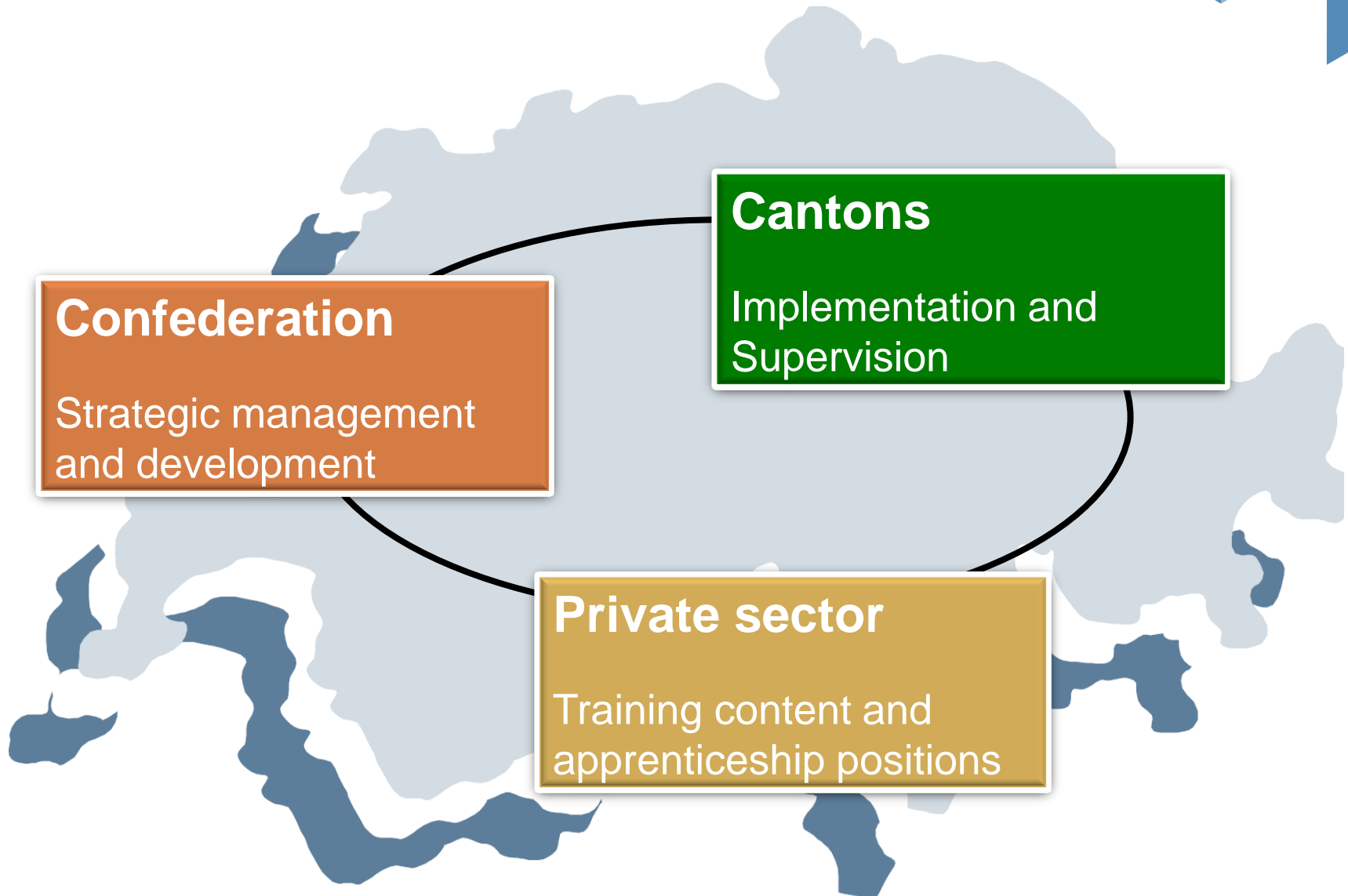


Features of Swiss VPET system

- **Public-private partnership**
- **Integrated into education system:
Permeability**
- **Labour market orientation**

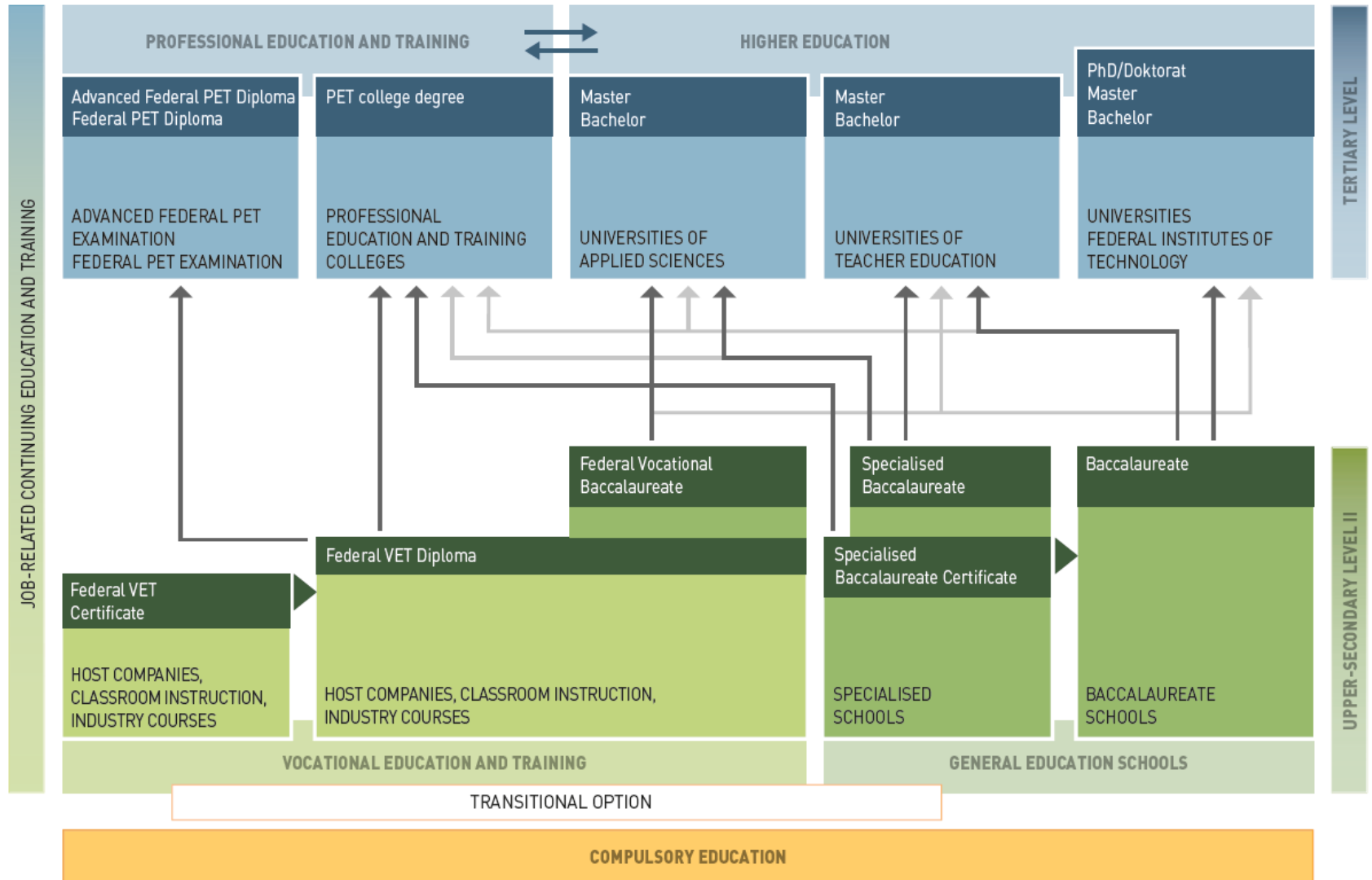


VPET: 1 mission – 3 partners



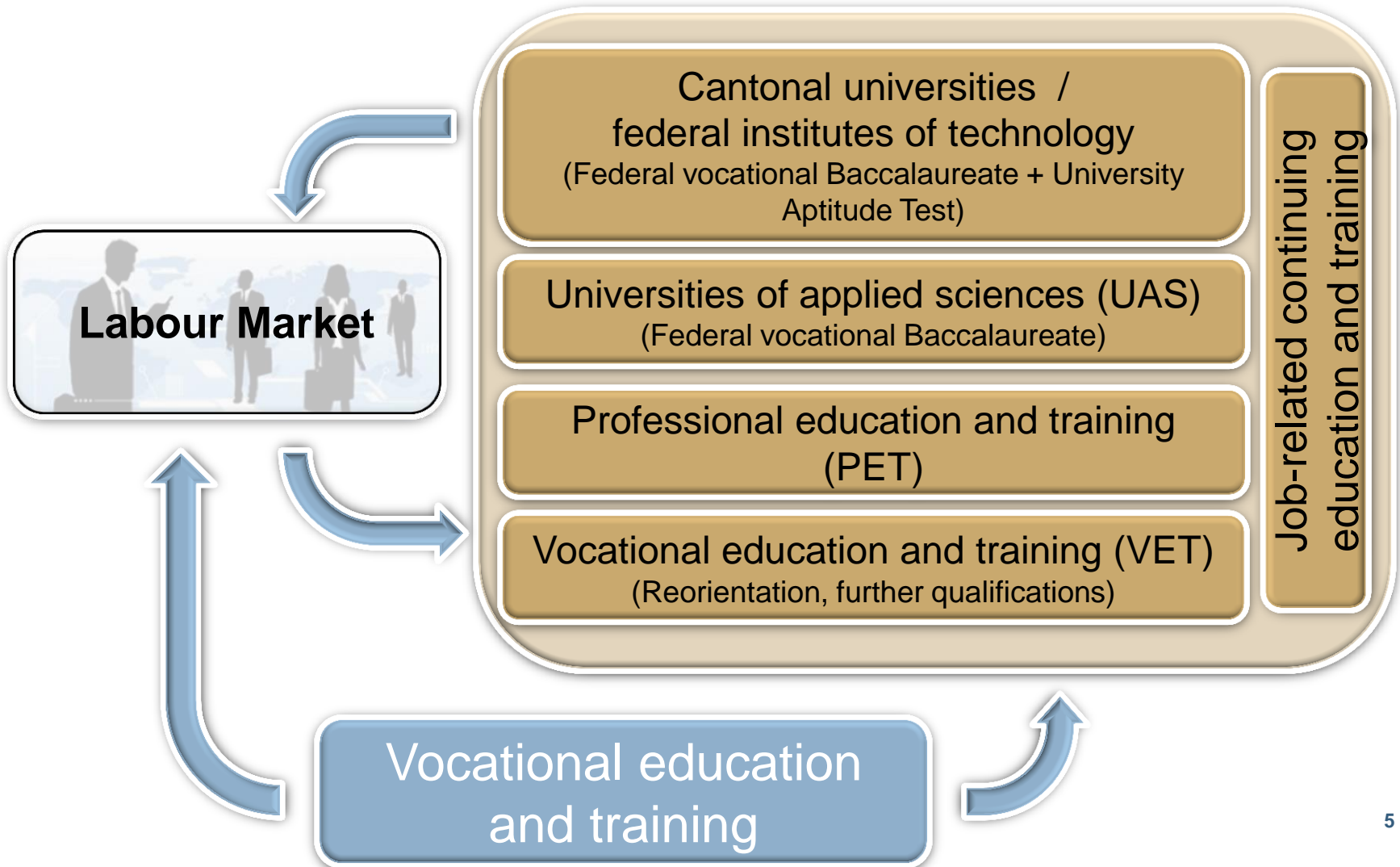


Swiss education system





VET as the basis for entry into the labour market and lifelong learning





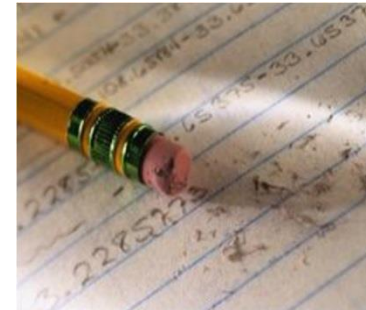
Dual-Track approach to vocational education and training

2-year Federal VET Certificate
3-year or 4-year Federal VET Diploma
Federal Vocational Baccalaureate (FVB)



Practice

**In-company
training
(3-4 days per week)
industry courses**

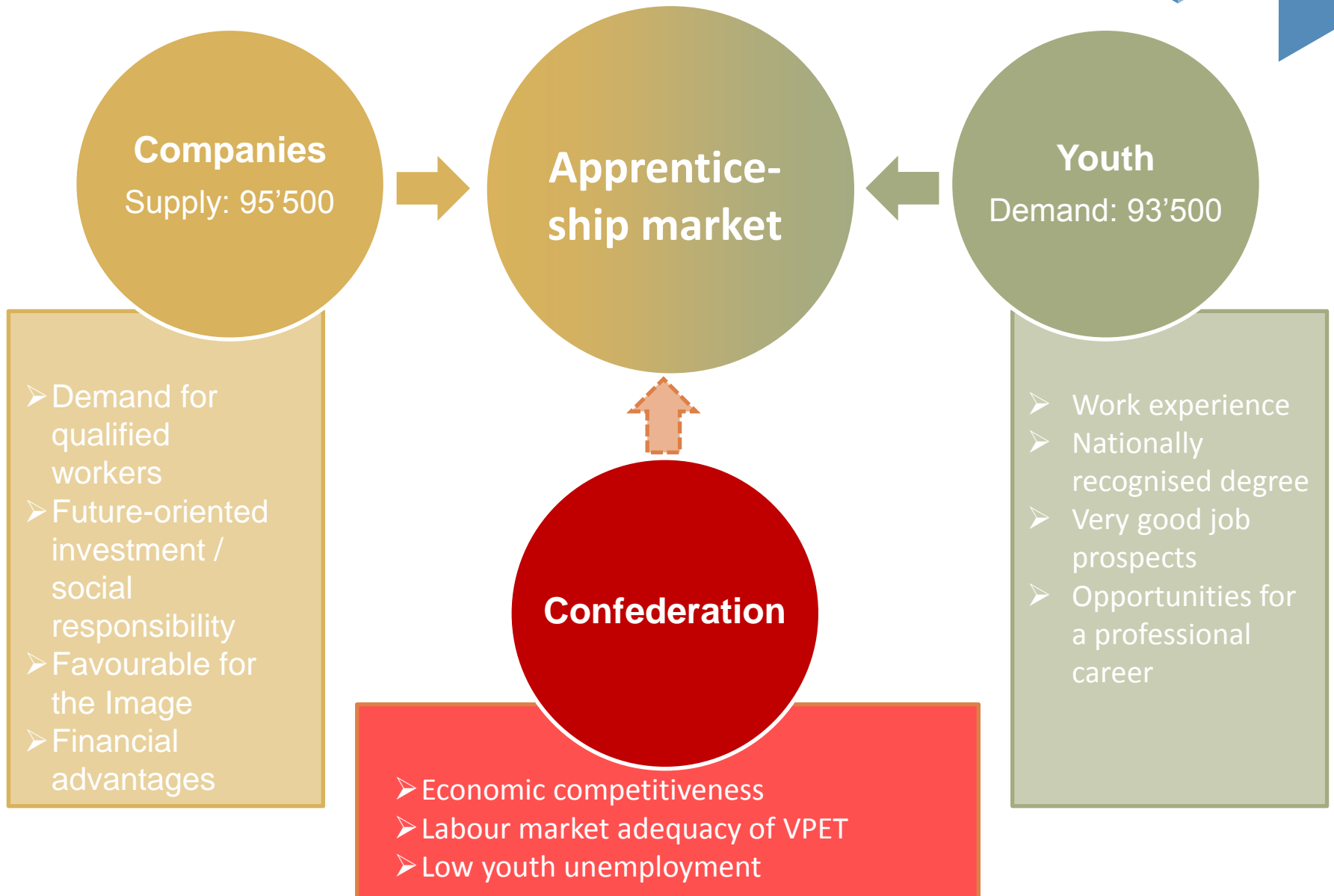


Theory

**Classroom instructions at VET-
School
(1-2 days per week)
Preparatory course for FVB**

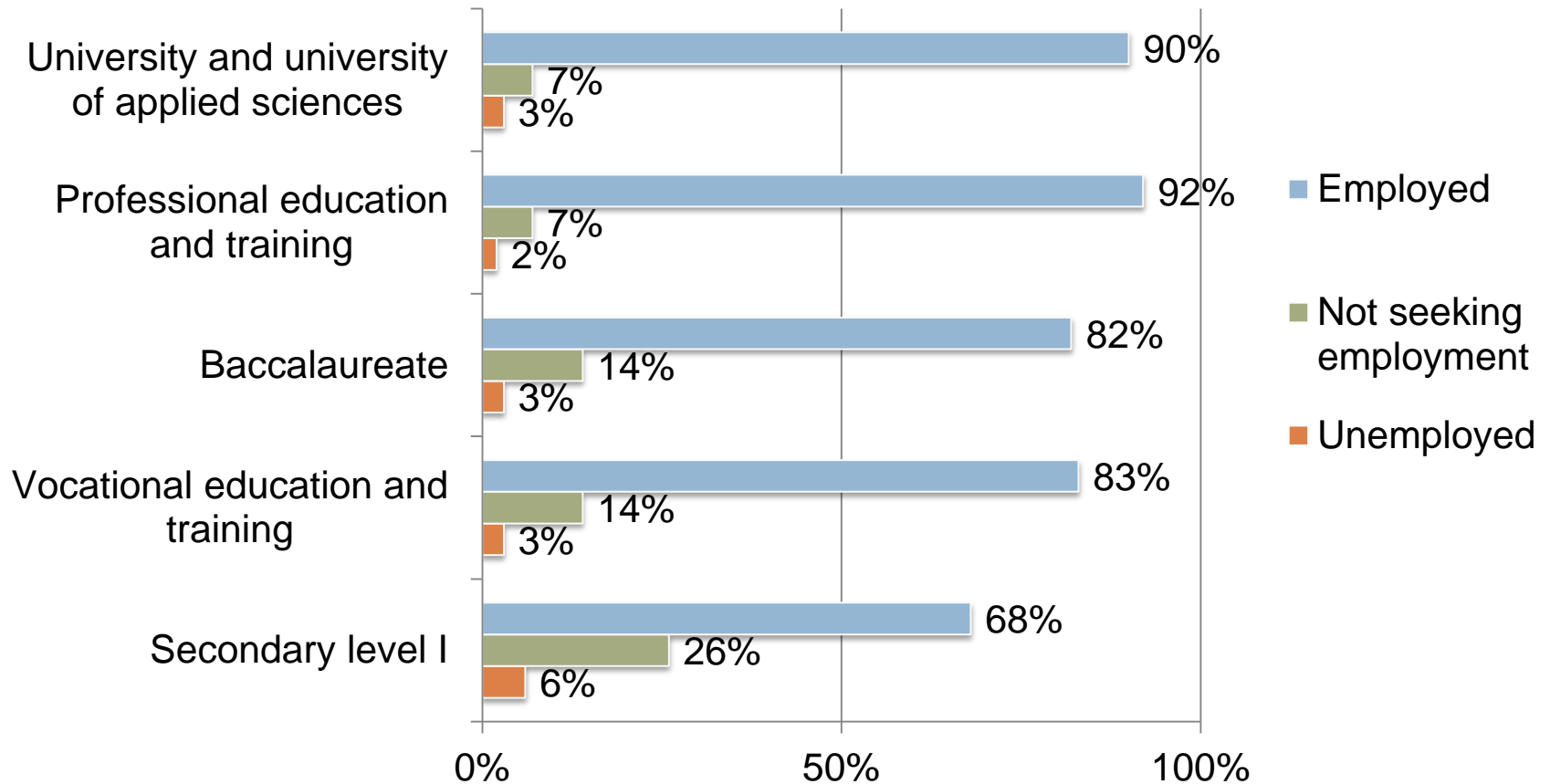


Apprenticeship market





Labour market oriented VPET → High employability



Source: Swiss Federal Statistical Office (FSO) / Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS);

Estimates by Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER)



Precautions taken to prevent early dropout from VET Programs:

Mentoring

- Additional support with choice of occupations during compulsory education.

Bridge-years

- Offers for young people with difficulties in transitioning between compulsory education (secondary level I) and vocational education and training (upper secondary level II).

Federal VET Certificates (2-year education)

- Vocational education and training programs that are intended for students who are mainly practically talented.

Case Management

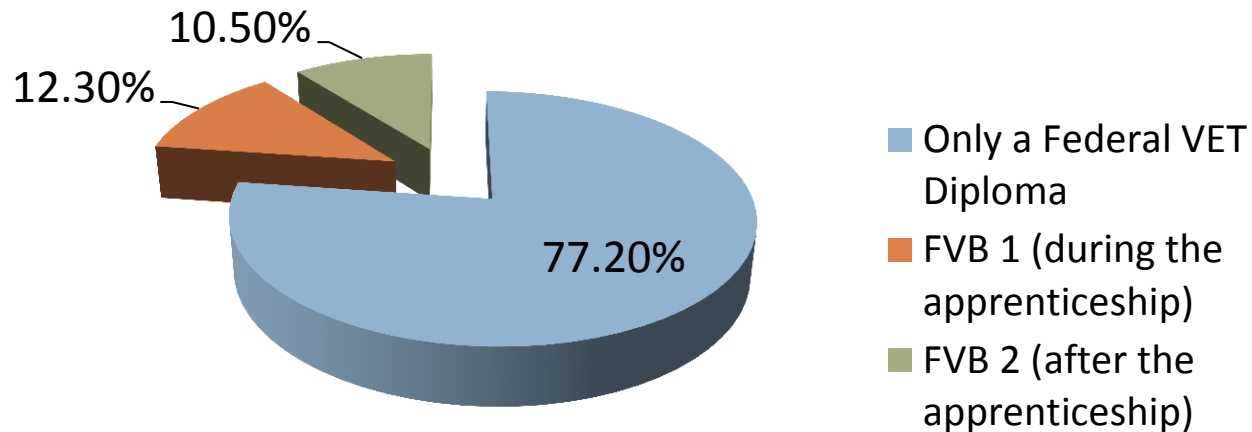
- Integration of young people with multiple problems into VET-programs.



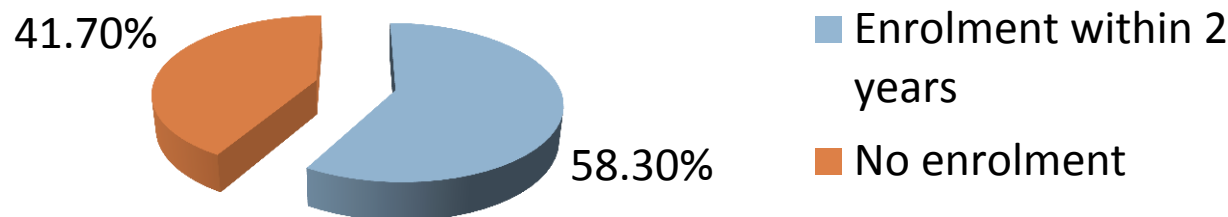
VET pathways leading to tertiary level

Federal Vocational Baccalaureate as entry-level qualification for admission to Swiss universities of applied sciences

Ratio of FVBs to Federal VET Diplomas (2013)



Ratio of FVB holders who enrol in Swiss UAS (cohort 2008)





Training contents: responsibilities

Confederation

- Issuance / recognition of ordinances and corresponding fundamental documents
- Supervision and support during process of reform and revision
- Strategic management

Private sector

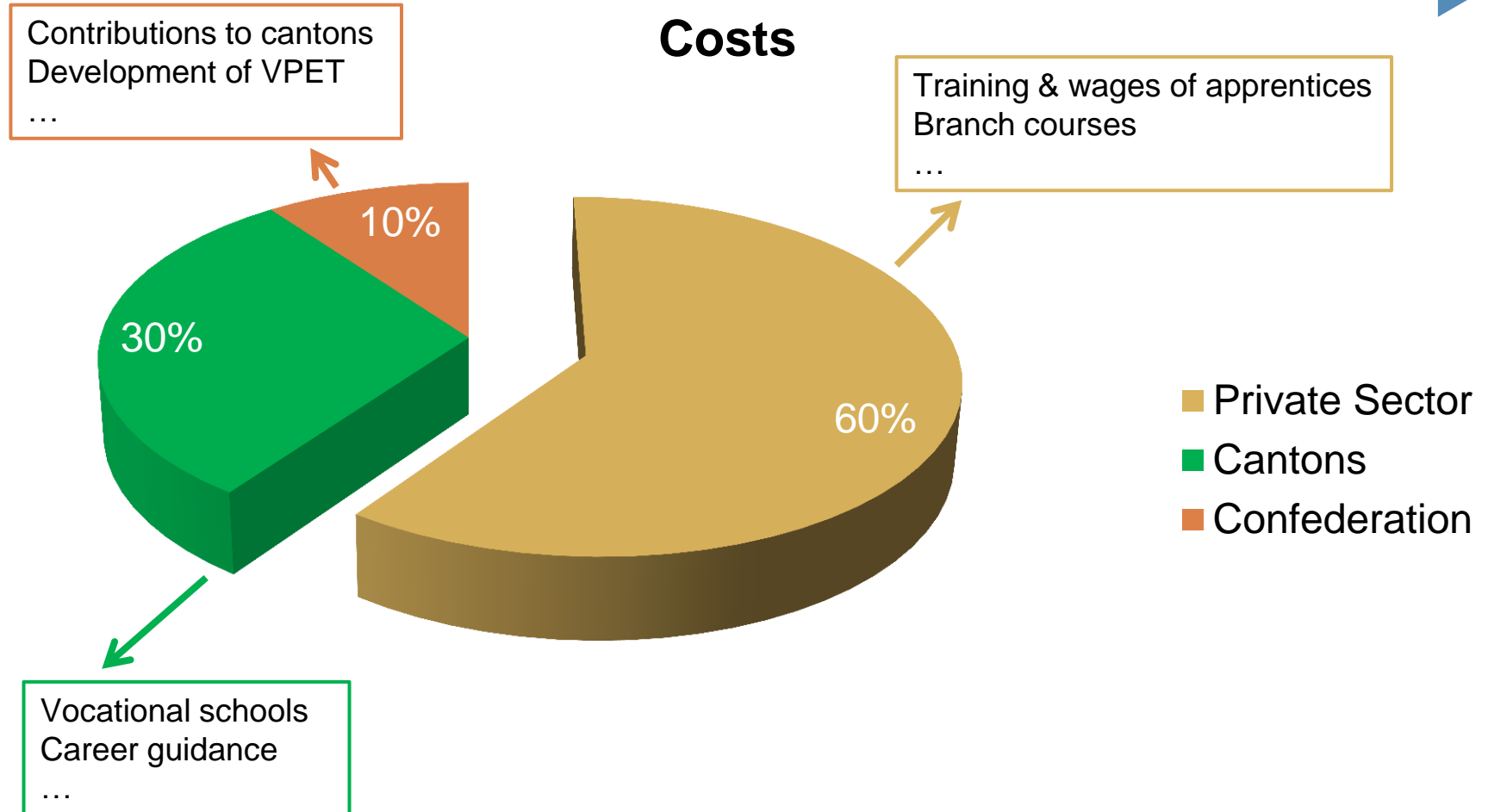
- Definition of training contents
- Definition of qualification procedures
- Operational project management during process of reform and revision

Cantons

- Implementation of VET ordinances and training plans
- Supervision and support during process of reform and revision

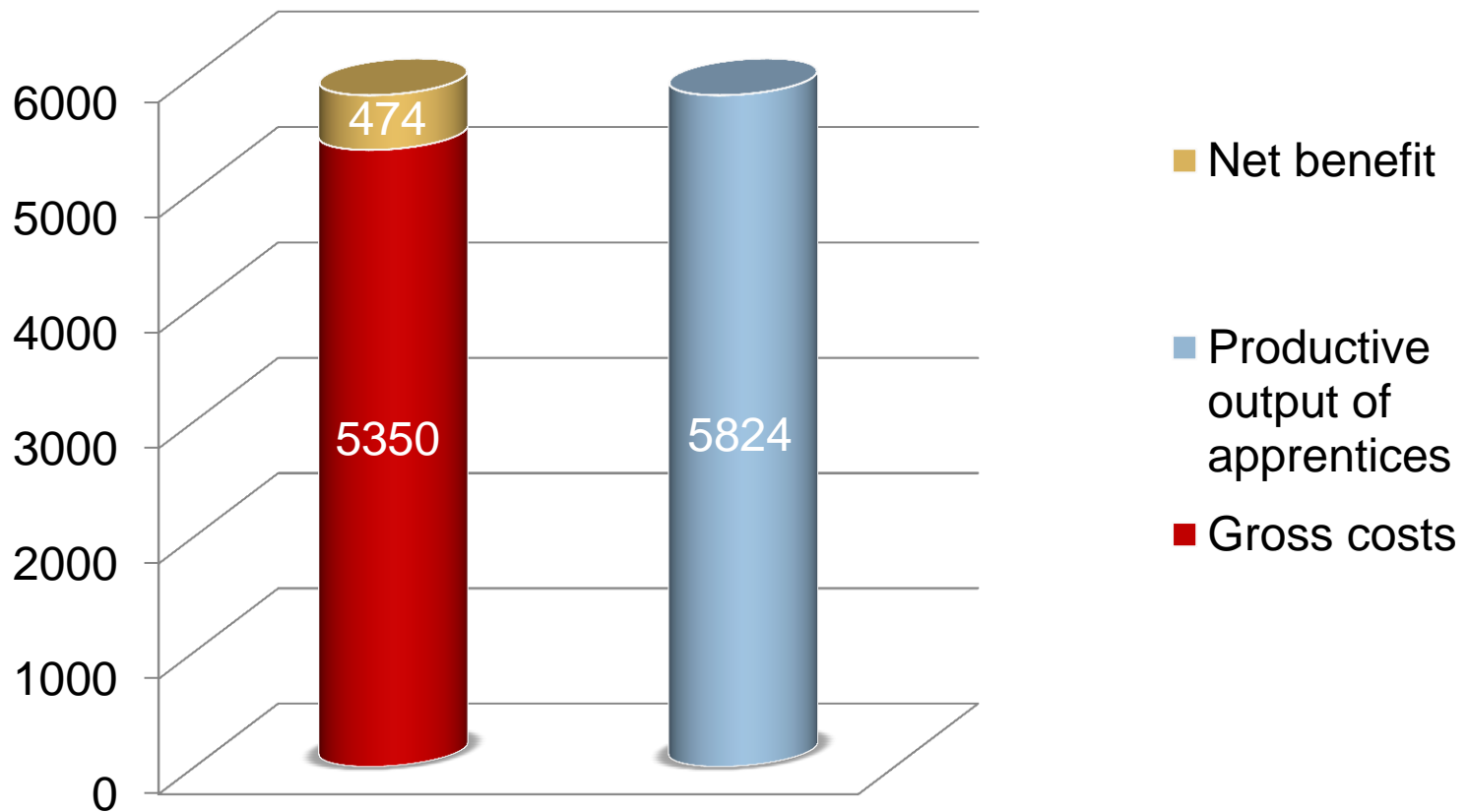


Funding of VPET system



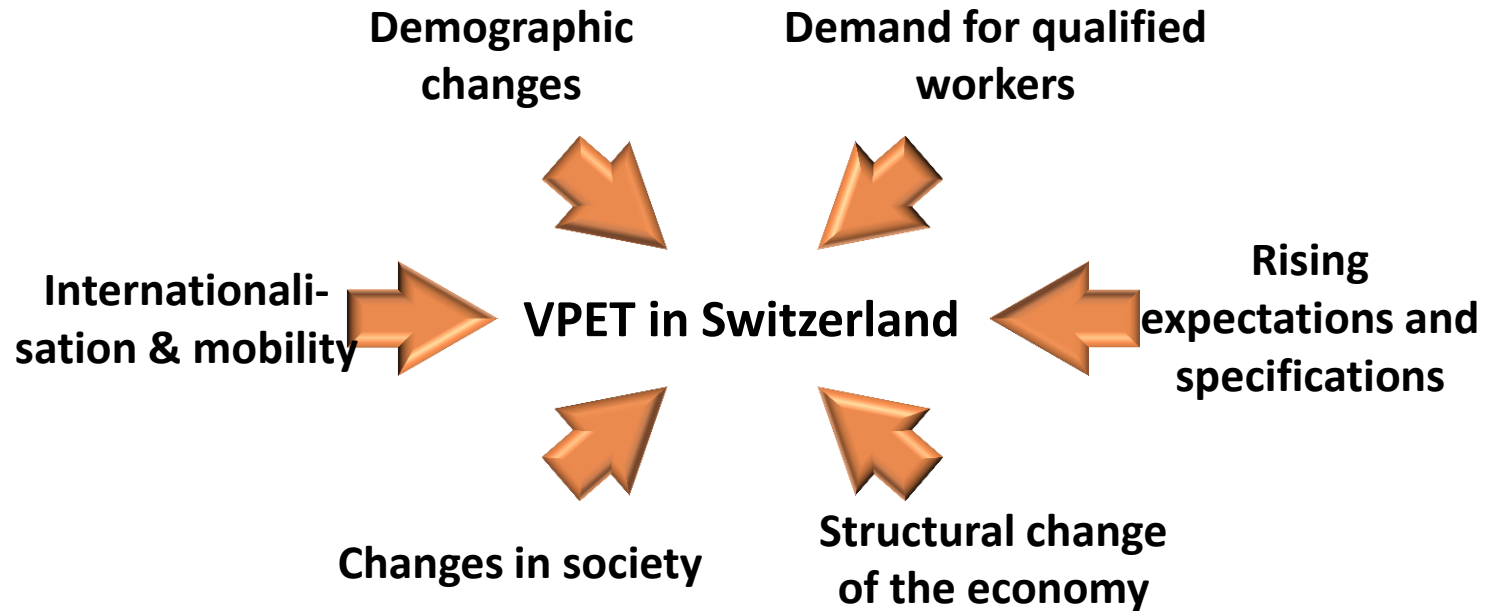


Cost/benefit ratio for Swiss companies offering apprenticeships in CHF million





Challenges





Between excellence and integration

- PET
- FVB
- Apprenticeship support
- Skills competitions
- Foreign languages
- Mobility

- Coaching / mentoring
- Bridge-year courses
- 2-year VET programmes
- Case Management

**Encouraging
talent**

Integration

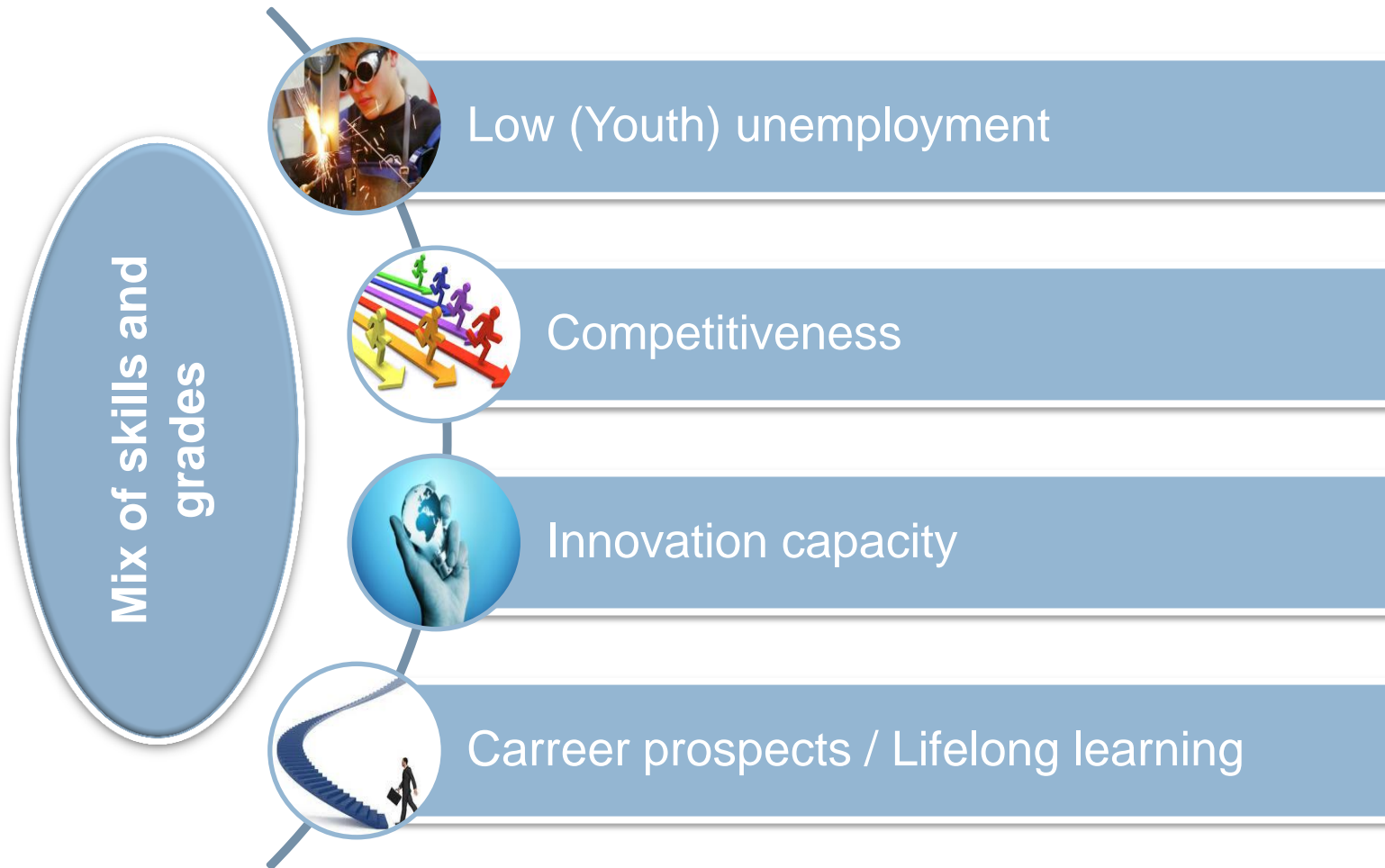


Strengths of Swiss VPET system

- 
- A light blue map of Switzerland is centered on the slide. Overlaid on the map is a list of five strengths, each preceded by an orange arrow icon.
- Labour market orientation
 - Quality
 - Permeability
 - Public-private partnership
 - Cost efficiency



Effects on macro level



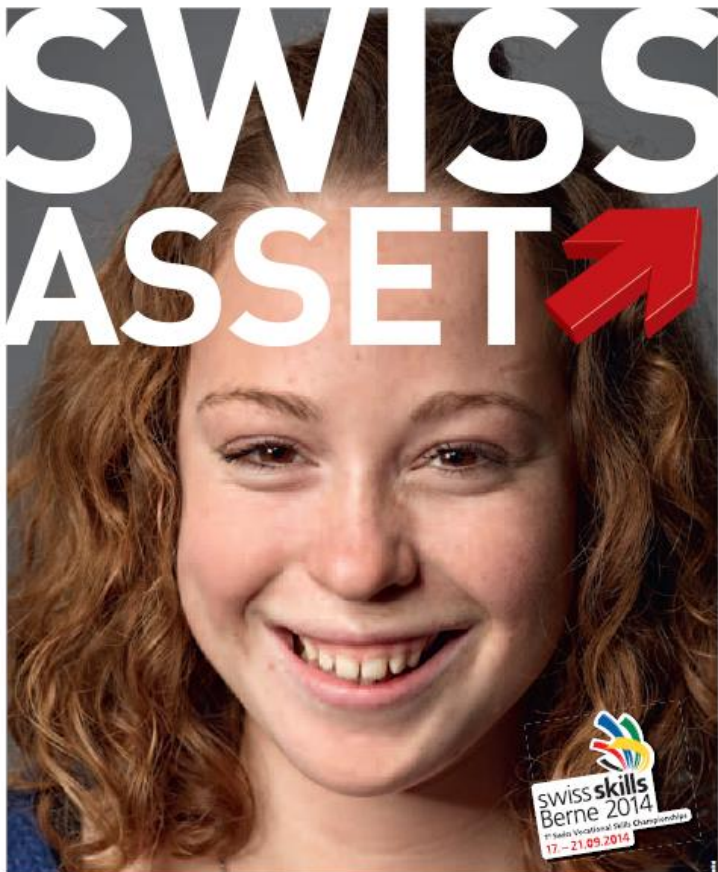


**Thank you
for your
attention!**

Further Information:

www.eda.admin.ch/washington

www.seri.admin.ch



**SWISS
ASSET**

**Vocational and professional education and training
is a key economic factor.**

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun Svizra
Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research (EDA)
State Secretariat for Education,
Research and Innovation (SERI)

VETPLUS.CH
THE PATH OF PROFESSIONALS.
An initiative of the Confederation, the cantons and professional organizations.